

Minutes of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

**February 10, 2001
College of St. Catherine**

Todd Boerboom – Augsburg, Janelle Nelson, Joel Olson – Bethel, Brittany Stephans – Carleton, Travis Olson, Kristen Orme – Concordia, Ryan Meulemans, Kate Reiman – Gustavus, Katie Jensen, Brian Julson – Hamline, Jaclyn Chavez, Tyson O'Connell – Macalester, Dani Dries, Sarah Holker – St. Benedict, Jenny Dowzak, Beth Hayden – St. Catherine, Bryon Krause - St. John's, Dan Krocak, Missy Mollick – St. Mary's, Carlyle Carter, MIAC Executive Director
Guest: Mike Stehlik, Gustavus SAAB Advisor

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 by Executive Director Carlyle Carter.

1. Introductions. The institutional representatives introduced themselves and gave a brief statement of expectations regarding the committee.
2. Executive Director Carter gave an overview of the NCAA and the MIAC Structure including the role of SAAC. A handout was provided identifying the NCAA legislation establishing campus as well as conference SAACs.
3. A discussion took place regarding campus SAAC existence and operation. Questions were raised regarding whether a campus SAAC that existed but did not meet, met the NCAA legislation requirements. Executive Director Carter stressed the importance of operational and functional campus SAACs and recommended that representatives meet with administrators to stimulate "activating" campus committees. Executive Director Carter also spoke of the need to ensure that Campus SAACs did not become just a forum for complaints because of "broader issues" that face student-athletes and require their attention.
4. Executive Director Carter distributed examples of documents from successful campus SAACs from other parts of the country and identified the need for policies and/or constitution and bylaws for rules to govern campus SAAC operations, a common theme contained in the examples.
5. Executive Director Carter distributed examples of documents from 2 existing Conference SAACs (Centennial and WIAC). The committee reviewed the Centennial Conference Bylaws and the WIAC SAAC Operating Code. In reviewing the documents, particular attention was paid to the mission statement or the Centennial Conference and the statements of purpose and function contained in the WIAC document.
6. Executive Director Carter stressed the importance for the committee to establish a mission statement and led the committee in a "brainstorming session" to develop such a statement. Considerable time was spent identifying words that would describe a mission for the committee. It became apparent that there were 4 common themes that were identified from the exercise. These themes were: communication, structure, support and activism. The committee was then asked to formulate a draft mission statement utilizing the themes. The draft statement is as follows:

The MIAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will support student-athletes by providing the communication of ideas and concerns between student-athletes and the MIAC within a structure that will promote active involvement.

7. Committee members will be asked to review the draft mission statement and respond with any recommendations for revisions.
8. Executive Director Carter stressed the committee's need to begin to think about policies and procedures to ensure continuity and stability in the existence of the committee. The work of this committee will be the foundation for the work of future committees and the committee was asked to further review the documents distributed and begin to develop ideas for the next meeting.
9. A set of documents was distributed to the committee identifying examples of communication tools. Email was identified as a very useful means of communicating and all members indicated that they were able to receive email attachments. The conference website was also identified as a communication tool for all student-athletes in regards to the work of the committee.
10. The committee identified late April for the next possible in-person meeting. Executive Director Carter will identify dates and distribute via email.
11. The Gustavus SAAC advisor asked for examples of the types of projects/events that campus SAACs were undertaking. A brief discussion took place with some examples being a "half-time" give-away", organization of social gatherings for student-athletes and arranging for seniors student-athletes to tutor younger student-athletes.

Meeting adjourned approximately 1:00pm